GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4216
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2008
SPACE TRAVEL BY INDIANS
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether adventurous space travel is being undertaken on a global scale;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith training provided in this regard;

(c) whether any Indians have been included in the space trip; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a)&(b)Yes, Sir. Space tourism is being undertaken on commercial basis by some international enterprises which also provide the required training. The training depends on the mission and duration of flight. It includes exposure to simulated space environments as well as physical fitness test, medical and psychological evaluations.

(c)&(d)Virgin Galactic, a UK based company is offering space travel opportunities to tourists for a short duration sub-orbital flight. It is learnt that a private individual from Kerala has been selected as first space tourist from India by M/s.Virgin Galactic.